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MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE

August 23, 2005

FAMILY DAY – A DAY TO EAT DINNER WITH YOUR CHILDREN September 26, 2005

The use of illegal drugs and the abuse of alcohol and nicotine constitute the greatest threats to the well-being of America's children; and

Surveys conducted by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University have consistently found that the more often children and teenagers eat dinner with their families the less likely they are to smoke, drink and use illegal drugs; and

Teenagers who virtually never eat dinner with tier families are 72 percent more likely than the average teenager to use illegal drugs, alcohol and cigarettes and the correlation between family dinners and reduced risk for teen substance abuse are well documented; and

Parental influence is known to be one of the most crucial factors in determining the likelihood of substance abuse by teenagers and family dinners have long constituted a substantial pillar of family life in America:

THEREFORE I MOVE that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles does hereby proclaim September 26, 2005 as FAMILY DAY – A Day to Eat Dinner With Your Children throughout the County of Los Angeles in support of CASA and its efforts to promote the value of parental engagement and encourage them to make family dinners a regular part of their lives and urge all residents to recognize and participate in its observance.

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YBB:jar/FAMILY Day 082305

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